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Security Council

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Letter dated 23 October 2012 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit a letter dated 12 October 2012 from Dioncounda Traoré, interim President of Mali. In his letter, the interim President refers to the human rights violations taking place in the occupied regions of northern Mali, which have led the Government of Mali to refer this matter to the International Criminal Court (see annex).

In this regard, the letter of President Traoré conveys his Government's desire for the Security Council to support national and international efforts to bring to justice the perpetrators of crimes against humanity in Mali by including this element in a Security Council resolution authorizing the intervention, under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, of an international military force in Mali.

I would be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex

Letter dated 12 October 2012 from the interim President of Mali to the Secretary-General

[Original: French]

In my letter No. 200/P-RM of 18 September 2012, I requested the adoption by the United Nations Security Council of a resolution authorizing the intervention of an international military force under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations in order to assist the Malian Army in recapturing the occupied northern regions.

In that letter, I explained that the groups occupying those regions were violating the most basic rights of the population on a daily basis, including by carrying out summary executions, looting and rape, as well as destroying historic monuments in Gao and Timbuktu. This situation has led the Government of Mali to refer the situation in Mali since January 2012 to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

In that connection, the Government of Mali hopes that the aforementioned Security Council resolution will request the international military force, to the extent compatible with its duties and responsibilities, to support national and international efforts to bring to justice the perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in northern Mali, especially those who are eligible for prosecution by the International Criminal Court. Such an approach would be consistent with the resolutions adopted by the Security Council under similar circumstances.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dioncounda **Traoré**